

Victor Charles Taber (1924 – 1944)

Victor Taber listed his home of record as National City, California. And he entered the service from the state of California. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Taber lived at 659 Del Mar, Chula Vista, CA, and his father is an electrical engineer with San Diego Gas and Electric. Victor was a graduate of Sweetwater Union High School in June 1942. He was an outstanding athlete and student. During his senior year, he was the vice-president of his class and was given the American Legion citizenship award. He played tackle on the champion Sweetwater football squad in 1942 and also earned a letter in tennis.

Victor Taber was a Aviation Machinist Mate Third Class (AMM3C) in the United States Navy (E4).

He died on 25 October 1944, stationed aboard the USS St. Lo, and was involved with the second invasion of the Philippines. His name appears on the “Tablets of the Missing” in the Manila American Cemetery at Manila, Republic of the Philippines. The USS St Lo was sunk, and he is listed as Missing in Action (MIA) or Buried at Sea. He was awarded the Silver Star in fighting the raging fires on the deck of the USS St. Lo, “refusing to leave when chance for survival in that area became exceedingly small”.

Victor Taber had been in the U.S. Navy for 18 months and was 20 years old. He was awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart.

